Birthday Problem & Monty Hall Game

PUBLISHED
October 9, 2025

Birthday Problem

```
set.seed(200)
n <- 100 #people in room
triple <- 0 #counter for room with one or more 3+ matches
numberofruns <- 10000
for(i in 1:numberofruns){
  birthdays <- sample(365, n, replace = TRUE)
  #This is a frequency table of birthdays to see if any day occurs 3 or more times
  if (max(table(birthdays)) >= 3){
    triple <- triple + 1 # room found with at least one triple
  }
}
#Calculate and print estimated probability
p_triple <- triple / numberofruns
print(p_triple)</pre>
```

[1] 0.6438

The Monty Hall Game

```
set.seed(100)
numberofruns <- 100000
wins_if_stay <- 0 #starting with zero wins for 'stay' approach</pre>
wins_if_switch <- 0 #starting with zero wins for 'switch' approach</pre>
for (t in seq_len(numberofruns)) {
  # randomly place car behind one of the three doors
  car <- sample(1:3, 1)</pre>
  # contestant picks a door randomly
  pick <- sample(1:3, 1)</pre>
  # host opens a door that:is not the contestant pick and does not have the car
  # If there are two possible doors host can open, he chooses one of them.
  remaining <- setdiff(1:3, c(pick, car))</pre>
  if (length(remaining) == 0) {
    # contestant picked car; host opens one of the two doors with a goat
    hostopensdoor <- sample(setdiff(1:3, pick), 1)</pre>
  } else {
    # there is exactly one door that is neither contestant pick nor the car, host opens it
```

localhost:5948

```
hostopensdoor <- remaining[1]
}

# the door available to switch to is the one not pick and not host_opens
switch_to <- setdiff(1:3, c(pick, hostopensdoor))

# if staying, you win if your original pick is car
if (pick == car) wins_if_stay <- wins_if_stay + 1

# if switching, you win if the other door that is unopened has the car
if (switch_to == car) wins_if_switch <- wins_if_switch + 1
}

p_stay <- wins_if_stay / numberofruns
p_switch <- wins_if_switch / numberofruns

print(paste0("P(win if stay) = ", round(p_stay, 6)))</pre>
```

[1] "P(win if stay) = 0.33438"

```
print(paste0("P(win if switch) = ", round(p_switch, 6)))
```

[1] "P(win if switch) = 0.66562"

localhost:5948 2/2